Financial steps

11. Financial and technical help is provided to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, *viz*. Project Tiger and Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to wild animals.

International Cooperation

12. India has a Memorandum of Understanding with Nepal on controlling trans-boundary illegal trade in wildlife and conservation, apart from a protocol on tiger conservation with China.

13. A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.

14. During the Fourteenth meeting of the Conference of Parties to CITES, which was held from 3rd to 15th June, 2007 at The Hague, India introduced a resolution along with China, Nepal and the Russian Federation, with directions to Parties with operations breeding tigers on a commercial scale, for restricting such captive populations to a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers. The resolution was adopted as a decision with minor amendments. Further, India made an intervention appealing to China to phase out tiger farming, and eliminate stockpiles of Asian big cats body parts and derivatives. The importance of continuing the ban on trade of body parts of tigers was emphasized.

Reintroduction of Tigers in Sariska Tiger Reserve

15. A male tiger and a tigress have been reintroduced in the Sariska Tiger Reserve (Rajasthan), based on a recovery strategy suggested by the Wildlife Institute of India. The tigers are being closely monitored radio telemetry.

Creation of Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF)

16. The policy initiatives announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech of 29.2.2008, *interalia*, contains action points relating to tiger protection. A one time grant of Rs. 50.00 crore has been provided to the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) for raising, arming and deploying a Special Tiger Protection Force. Action has been taken for the needful in this regard.

Tiger projects

661. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the total amount spent in India on Tiger Projects, the total number of tigers, elephants, lions and leopards in India as on today and the details of Census report from 2000 to 2008?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): The Central Assistance provided to tiger States under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger during the Tenth and current Plan period are given in the Statement-I (*See* below). As per the findings of the recent all India estimation of tiger using the refined methodology, the total country-level population of tiger is 1411 (mid value); the lower and upper limits being 1165 and 1657 respectively. As a part of the recent all India tiger estimation, only the spatial occupancy of leopard within the 17 tiger States has been ascertained. The population of tiger, and spatial occupancy of leopard in tiger States are given in the Statement-II (*See* below). Details of elephant and lion population from 2000 onwards are given in the Statement-III.

Statement-I

Details of funds released under the centrally sponsored scheme "Project Tiger" during Xth and XIth plan period

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of Tiger Reserve Range State	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1.	Andhra Pradesh	21.10	22.89	15.00	68.7926	46.675	73.9175	26.0830
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	35.875	68.75	35.00	172.418	237.3725	110.2542	54.7805*
3.	Assam	65.70	75.00	–	86.4896	87.431	95.614	27.5694
4.	Bihar	25.00	50.00	85.00	6.4918	69.9554	98.3205	49.6731
5.	Chhattisgarh	32.48	80.25	27.75	24.3343	10.00	35.225	92.1297
6.	Karnataka	289.56	269.32	486.292	453.2246	286.277	1159.71491	132.24282
7.	Kerala	63.75	120.68	105.75	116.1708	109.00	153.2449	56.6000
8.	Jharkhand	18.00	35.9915	72.5005	164.1784	155.967	45.16	48.2165
9.	Madhya Pradesh	786.44	1103.414	609.93	777.2676	897.942	2975.94113	1851.6640
10.	Maharashtra	621.79	228.45	255.953	334.19	238.56	295.71907	233.1276
11.	Mizoram	98.32	67.56	94.34	65.156	115.16	82.90	80.0000
12.	Orissa	32.88	151.91	116.4395	107.0024	183.8717	43.28	473.7600
13.	Rajasthan	294.92	158.330	79.00	281.2458	176.541	410.68	2477.3026
14.	Tamil Nadu	125.00	35.00	80.00	136.9528	108.535	45.40	208.8360
15.	Tripura	-	-	-	0.50	–	–	–
16.	Uttaranchal	168.00	200.91	200.12	159.9212	192.78	202.005	136.5500
17.	Uttar Pradesh	32.75	173.585	175.215	162.8782	183.265	134.89	157.5100
18.	West Bengal	168.33	225.17	325.49	228.29358	190.5283	308.67414	111.5694
	TOTAL :	2879.895	3067.2105	2763.78	3345.5076	3289.8609	6270.94035	6217.6146

* Release withheld for want of MoU.

Statement-II

Forest occupancy of leopard in tiger States, and population of tiger as estimated by the refined methodology

State	Leopard	Tiger Numbers		
	(km^2)	No.	Lower limit	Upper limit
Shivalik-Gangetic Plain Landscape Complex				
Uttarakhand	3683	178	161	195
Uttar Pradesh	2936	109	91	127
Bihar	552	10	7	13
Shivalik-Gangetic TOTAL	7171	297	259	335
Central Indian Landscape Complex and Eastern Ghats Landscape Complex				
Andhra Pradesh	37609	95	84	107
Chhattisgarh	14939	26	23	28
Madhya Pradesh	34736	300	236	364
Maharashtra	4982	103	76	131
Orissa	25516	45	37	53
Rajasthan	-	32	30	35
Jharkhand**	131		Not Assessed	
Central Indian Total	117913	601	486	718
Western Ghats Landscape Complex				
Karnataka	20506	290	241	339
Kerala	8363	46	39	53
Tamil Nadu	14484	76	56	95
Western Ghats Total	43353	412	336	487
North East Hills and Brahmaputra Flood Plains				
Assam*	1500	70	60	80
Arunachal Pradesh*	670	14	12	18
Mizoram*	2324	6	4	8
Northern West Bengal*	1135	10	8	12
North East Hills, and Brahmaputra Total	5629	100	84	118
Sunderbans	-		Not Assessed	
Total Tiger Population		**1411**	**1165**	**1657**

* Population estimates are based on possible density of tiger occupied landscape in the area, not assessed by double sampling.

** Data was not amenable to population estimation of tiger. However, available information about the landscape indicates low densities of tiger in the area ranging from 0.5 to 1.5 per 100 km^2.

Statement-III

A. Estimated population of wild elephants

Region	State	Elephant Population	
		2002	2007-08
North-East	Arunachal Pradesh	1607	1690
	Assam	5246	5281
	Meghalaya	1868	1811
	Nagaland	145	152
	Mizoram	33	12
	Manipur	12	-
	Tripura	40	59
	West Bengal (North)	292	300-350
Total for North-East		9243	9305-9355
East	West Bengal (South)	36	25
	Jharkhand	772	624
	Orissa	1841	1862
	Chhattisgarh	-	122
Total for East		2649	2633
North	Uttarakhand	1582	1346
	Uttar Pradesh	85	380
Total for North		1667	1726
South			
	Tamil Nadu	3052	3867
	Karnataka	5838	4035
	Kerala	3850	6068
	Andhra Pradesh	74	28
	Maharashtra	-	7
Total for South		12814	14005
Islands	Andaman & Nicobar	40	-
GRAND TOTAL		26413	27669-27719

B. Estimated population of Lion

2001	2005
327 ± 5	359± 10

Financial assistance for development of forests

662. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government provides some financial assistance to State Governments for the development of forests in their territory;

(b) the amount of funds so released to State Governments, particularly to State Government of Maharashtra for the purpose during the last three years;